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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Sub-Saharan Africa

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Burundi**Army Officer Appointed Muyinga Province Governor**

*AB3004190795 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 30 Apr 95*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The authorities in Burundi have signalled the start of a security clampdown in Muyinga Province in the northeast of the country, which has seen some of the worst incidents of ethnic violence in recent months. Earlier this month, the U.S. ambassador in Burundi reported that up to 400 Hutus had been massacred in Muyinga, in the same area where the provincial governor had been stabbed to death in January. Well, now a new governor has taken over and, unlike his predecessor, he is a military man. On the line to Bujumbura, Mary Harper asked our reporter, Bonavon Chirendikamana, who had been appointed governor of Muyinga.

[Begin recording] [Chirendikamana] He is a senior Army officer. His name is Lieutenant Boniface Banoma Kanou. He was, until now, the commander of military operations in the northern region of Muyinga.

[Harper] And is the governor a Hutu or a Tutsi?

[Chirendikamana] I would think that he is a Tutsi.

[Harper] Why has the government decided to choose a military man as a governor for this province?

[Chirendikamana] I think the government decided to appoint a military governor to deal more seriously with the security situation there. As you know, there are sporadic attacks from across the border, carried out by extremist groups.

[Harper] Does this mean that the government is going to impose martial law in Muyinga?

[Chirendikamana] Not exactly, but I would rather think that the Army is appointing somebody who can go out to the field and look in the situation and, maybe, coordinate better military operations. As you know, Muyinga is a rather insecure area now. Even the peace campaign which was initiated by the government is very slow there, whereas in other parts of the country it is going on rather well.

[Harper] The Army in Burundi has not got the best of reputations, and isn't appointing a military man as governor something of a provocation?

[Chirendikamana] No, I don't think so. It is a decision which was consulted among the political class. You know, the government is composed of people from the majority party and the opposition parties, and the president had to consult with the prime minister—one is coming from the majority and the other from the opposition. So I think it is a consulted decision to deal more

seriously with the situation. Of course, the Army has been playing a role in what is happening here. It is not perfect. Sometimes the Army is accused of some faults; but, overall, the role of the Army has been appreciated. It has been acknowledged by the government and the president himself. [end recording]

Rwanda**Hutu Returnees Reportedly Beaten to Death**

*AB3004182595 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 30 Apr 95*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rwandan Government has now driven virtually all the displaced people out of the camps in the southwest of the country. Only a handful of mainly Hutu refugees are still holding out at Kibeho, the site of last weekend's massacre, and while some returnees fear they will have no homes left to go back to, others fear Tutsi reprisals once they get back to their communes. Now, the UN refugee agency, the UNHCR, says a group of Hutu returnees have been beaten to death. On the line to Kigali, Mary Harper asked UNHCR spokesman, Fernando del Mundo, what he knew about the incident.

[Begin recording] [Del Mundo] We transported a lot of people back to Uye, this is a commune outside Butare. Now, we have a report that the local residents attacked the returnees, resulting in at least 14 deaths. Apparently, these people were stoned and beaten to death.

[Harper] When did this incident happen?

[Del Mundo] Apparently, this happened last week when we were transporting people from the camps for internally displaced people, which had been closed.

[Harper] Is this an isolated incident, or has it been happening in other places following the forcible closure of camps for displaced people?

[Del Mundo] This is the only place so far that we have been able to monitor, to receive this kind of report; but the government has confirmed that there were, at least, nine other deaths reported in the Butare area.

[Harper] And, apart from the people being stoned to death, were other returnees threatened in any way?

[Del Mundo] Yes, a lot of people have been threatened. A lot of people have been placed in communal detention centers. According to the local authorities, they were placed there to protect them from the local people. We don't have enough people on the ground to really look at the situation.

[Harper] And is the government or UNAMIR [UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda] trying to do anything to stop these kinds of incidents?

[Del Mundo] Well, the government has issued several statements urging local residents to treat these people kindly. UNAMIR and other UN agencies have deployed people in these areas, precisely, to create confidence among the returnees.

[Harper] Does this incident make you feel that, really, it is impossible for Hutu people to go back to their original villages, because there is such a threat of violence?

[Del Mundo] Well, a lot more people have returned. We have tracked over 60,000 people, and a lot more people went home on foot. [end recording]

Army Spokesman Gives Version of Uye Killings

AB0105182595 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 1 May 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Rwandan Patriotic Army, RPA, has taken issue with reports which emerged yesterday about the stoning to death of 14 Hutus who had just gone back to their commune at Uye in Butare District. According to a spokesman for the UNHCR, it happened last Tuesday [25 April], and the returnees were attacked on their return home from one of the displaced camps in southwestern Rwanda which the RPA is closing down, but the Army spokesman, Colonel Frank Mugambage, has a rather different version of events. On the line to Kigali, Mary Harper asked him what according to him had happened.

[Begin recording] [Mugambage] I have also heard of the UN reports about 14 people who died, but I think people are reporting things, giving information out of context, because the incident that is being referred to here is the one that happened on 25 April in a commune called Uye in Butare Prefecture, where there was a gang of thugs, people in a forest area, who were coming out and killing people, specifically survivors of the genocide. There is one specific person by the name of Damassin, who was the hardest man, who was cut into pieces. Civilians in the area called upon the soldiers to intervene, and when they went that group fought and tried to disarm the soldiers who then fired at them and, as a result, 13 people died. Thirteen people died.

[Harper] So you are saying that this was not a direct attack on Hutu people; it was more of a provoked attack?

[Mugambage] It was, indeed, a provoked attack. Indeed, the civilian population in that commune called upon the security forces after the gang in the forest was actually coming out to kill people. So it should not be looked at in terms of, you know, molesting people who are going back to their communes. I condemn anybody who comes out to use an incident like the one I have just described to mar the whole exercise as being a failure.

[Harper] So are you therefore condemning the United Nations?

[Mugambage] I would condemn anybody who publishes and confirms the report. Like I was saying, if they have any incidents, let's point it out, let's check it out with them, and we shall find out the truth about it; but going to air, as they have done before, to give false information and confirm information, I think he [as heard] is doing a disservice to the whole process of bringing about order and stability in the country.

[Harper] Is the Rwandan Government becoming alarmed by the change in attitude of the foreign community to them? The Belgians have already cut aid. The EU is recommending that other countries cut assistance. Are you very worried about this?

[Mugambage] That's not really the point. The point is that government has taken a stand, and the stand is: If the international community has anything has anything to query about, to question, government has decided to set up an international commission that would establish the truth, and we think that is being very transparent. We have given our part of the story because we have ourselves carried out investigations and know what it is. So we think by being that transparent, people should see the truth in the long run, and revise whatever positions they are holding now. [end recording]

Army Said Involved in Cover-Up; Protests Reported

AB0105182095 Paris AFP in English 1637 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kigali, 1 May (AFP)—Members of the mainly-Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) have been digging up and removing bodies from Kibeho camp, scene of an Army-led massacre last month, in an attempt to distort the real death toll, according to a UN report. A confidential report by the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) was made available to journalists here Monday [1 May].

The Rwandan Government and Army maintained that some 300 people died in the incident when soldiers, sent to close the camp and arrest participants in last year's massacres, opened fire on its Hutu inhabitants. But the United Nations put the death toll at 2,000, many people having been killed in the ensuing panic-caused stampede.

In its report, UNAMIR said Army soldiers were removing bodies under cover of darkness and taking them by truck to other locations along the road between Kibeho and Butare, some 30 kilometres (20 miles) away, which only Rwandan troops and UNAMIR are permitted to use. "The sounds of continuous vehicle traffic can be heard along the Kibeho-Butare road," the UNAMIR report said. "Without video imagery of these activities and/or possible media presence, these activities will likely be denied by the RPA and government. "The effect on the international stage will be physical evidence of hundreds not thousands of dead at the

Kibeho camp." According to the report, the evacuation of bodies was being carried out to discredit UN claims of a much higher death toll.

On Thursday, Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu announced the creation of an independent commission of enquiry into the Kibeho massacre and ordered the immediate exhumation of bodies in order to arrive at a definitive death toll. The Rwandan Government alleges the Hutus were killed after extremists hiding in the camp "provoked" the Army into opening fire.

Meanwhile, 500 mostly young people staged a peaceful demonstration in Kigali Monday to protest against foreign presence in Rwanda and the international community's interpretation of the Kibeho events. "Whites get out," the demonstrators cried. French President Francois "Mitterrand, murderer." They accused foreign media, particularly the French, of publishing a higher death toll than the official figure of 338 issued by the Rwandan government. The French humanitarian organisation Medecins Sans Frontieres, whose representatives said many thousands of people were killed at Kibeho, were also condemned, along with UNAMIR.

Dutch Representative Says Aid Payment Delayed

EA2904204695 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1800
GMT 29 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Here is a communique about clarifications made by the Dutch Government Representative (Bent van Rusdrischt) on the information and misunderstanding which circulated in the media on the subject of Dutch aid to Rwanda.

In a letter addressed to the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Dr. Anastase Gasana, the representative explains that the Netherlands did not suspend its aid to Rwanda.

Being aware of the country and its people's urgent needs, the Netherlands maintains its commitment to Rwanda made at the meeting of 19 January. The \$30 million earmarked for 1995 remains valid.

The commitments toward the trust fund, the funds serving the Rwandan Government's immediate needs, are also maintained.

The last \$11 million payment has been split. The first, amounting to \$5.5 million, has been paid recently. The second payment, of the same amount, that is \$5.5 million, has been kept aside following the regrettable events in Kibeho.

However, according to the information provided by Jan Pronk, the minister of development cooperation, the second payment will be paid at a later date.

European Official on Need for Continued Aid

LD3004153195 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 30 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] After the Kibeho refugee camp massacre, Belgium—among others—has decided to cut its aid to Rwanda, and the European Union is threatening to do the same. For Bernard Kouchner [former French humanitarian affairs minister and current president of the European parliament's development commission]—speaking to our correspondent Christian Boisbouvier this morning—that is not the solution:

[Begin recording] [Kouchner] Human rights are what people here want. Let us give them more assistance in their quest for justice. Conditions in the prisons are considered appalling; they are indeed appalling. I have been to see them. They are foul. However, is this not better than killing them? They are asking to be put on trial. We only see one aspect of things because the images we see are horrible. Yet what people want is for justice to be set in train. If justice can be delivered, it will, I believe, reestablish at least some form of balanced thinking, perhaps even fair thinking, in this country. Let us not burden even further those victims of a genocide that the world did not prevent. Let us not come down too hard, even on those who may be tempted to take revenge, when there is much that could be said about how we—in France, and in the world—have behaved.

[Boisbouvier] So you do not understand the attitude of the Dutch or Belgian Governments, who wish to cut their aid?

[Kouchner] I understand it, but I do not approve of it. I disapprove because it will be counterproductive, unless it is only a warning. If it is intended only as a warning—and it is understood here as such, so that people are more careful—then it will have been successful. If, on the other hand, it is programs that were just beginning to be implemented or aid that had not even begun to arrive—and if this hope that there could be understanding and help in certain specific areas, such as for orphans and children.... [pauses] This aid must continue. We must stand by them and ultimately let them take over responsibility. [end recording]

Kouchner, who left Kigali this morning, was in Rwanda to help with Operation One Child, One Home, which aims to have houses built for children who have located their parents who were lost during the course of last year's massacres.

Kenya**Minister Denies Aiding Rwandan 'Genocide Leaders'**

EA0105114895 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Foreign Affairs Minister Kalonzo Musyoka today in Nairobi said Kenya wishes to see the return of peace in Rwanda and cautioned Rwandan refugees living in Kenya not to abuse the hospitality accorded them.

Mr. Musyoka at the same time denied allegations that Kenya was harboring Rwandan genocide leaders and said that it was wrong to brand people killers unless they have been proved guilty in a court of law. Mr. Musyoka also said the necessary action will be taken against the alleged killers if proved guilty.

The foreign affairs minister said this today on arriving at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from Jakarta, Indonesia, where he attended the ministerial conference of the nonaligned member states. The ministers were preparing an agenda for the heads of state summit to be held later in the year in Colombo.

Asked by the press on his reaction about Kikuyu MP Paul Muite's recent call for civil disobedience, Mr. Musyoka termed the call as a bluff and strange, and said it was against the principles of tolerance, which are vital in a democratic process. [passage omitted]

Paper: Germany Reduces Aid Package to Country

EA0105201095 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 26 Apr 95 p 48

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Details emerged yesterday [25 April] of a drastic cut in Germany's economic aid package to Kenya, from DM [German marks] 140 million (Shs 4.5 billion) to DM49 million (Shs 1.5 billion). The Shs 1.5 billion aid commitment was made at a meeting with Kenyan officials in Bonn on 11th and 12th April, but details of those discussions now indicate the German Government froze its financial assistance (for infrastructural development) and would only disburse technical cooperation grants.

"We have decided to refrain from committing new funds for financial cooperation for the time being," the Kenyan delegation was told, according to sources. "However, we are prepared to revise this decision and commit funds under financial cooperation within our 1995/96 programme if the development process on both the political and economic fronts regains momentum and if well elaborated project proposals are submitted."

Sources close to the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development in Bonn said the government reduced its financial pledge for the current year due to its "disappointment over Kenya's serious political backsliding".

In both 1993-4 and 1994-5, Germany gave Kenya up to 140 million DM (or Shs 4.5 billion). However, the 13th April pledge was for Shs 1.5 billion for technical cooperation. This would be for projects like promotion of agriculture, small industries and job creation, as well as expansion of infrastructure.

What the Bonn statement did not highlight was the fact that for the first time in the German-Kenya relations, the government would not release any financial cooperation funds.

The reasons for Germany's abstinence (from disbursing nearly 100 million DM earlier earmarked for Kenya) were fully spelled out to the Kenyan Government officials. Sources in Bonn said the head of the German delegation at the talks spoke plainly about Germany's dissatisfaction over Kenya's approach to political reform. The "negative signals" that the delegation was informed about included:

- Government officials' constant criticism of the multi-party system in Kenya;
- The "recent incident at Maela involving internal refugees", which is seen as a serious threat to political and economic stability;
- Increasing harassment of opposition politicians;
- Renewed pressure on the critical press, both local and international, and the hampering of NGO [nongovernmental organization] activities (e.g. Clarion and Mwangaza);
- The fading away of government's concern for constitutional reform process;
- Recent investment decisions by the government which raise doubts among donors over the rationale and reliability of public investment planning.

"Germany is the second or third largest donor to Kenya," the source said. "So the holding up of 100 million DM or Shs 3 billion is no small matter, particularly as those funds had been earmarked for Kenya up until a few months ago when we began having serious doubts about the government's commitment to political reform." In addition to Germany, other bilateral and multilateral donors are concerned too about Kenya's political and economic events.

[Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English at 1600 GMT on 1 May adds the following: "The Federal Republic of Germany has accepted to extend to the Kenya Government another 4.5 billion shillings technical and financial assistance. This was revealed by Kenya's ambassador to Germany, Mr. Vincent Ongut Obare, during a press conference at a Frankfurt hotel. He said the 4.5 billion shilling aid commitment was made during the recently concluded bilateral negotiations held in Bonn."]

Government Increases Minimum Wage by 12 Percent

EA0105165395 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1300 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government today raised the general minimum wage by 12 percent. The government further raised the minimum wage for workers in the agricultural sector by 8 percent. Announcing the increment, the minister for labor and manpower development, Philip Masinde, conceded that the purchasing power of workers has been seriously eroded by the maintenance of high prices on commodities despite the fall in inflation rates. The minister said the failure to adjust commodity prices had made most goods and services out of reach of the majority workers. [sentence as heard]

Mr. Masinde, who was addressing workers at Uhuru Park during the Labor Day celebrations, said the government will continue liberalizing the labor market to pave the way to a compensation for the rise in inflation, boost productivity, and encourage dialogue between employers and employees.

The minister said the labor force is projected to grow from 9.4 million in 1990 to 11.5 million in 1996, when the population will be 27.2 million. Mr. Masinde said owing to the high population growth, the government was implementing the workers' education project aimed at motivating Kenyan workers to adopt smaller families.

The minister further said the government was concerned over the latest statistics indicating that 1 million Kenyans have contracted AIDS while 300,000 have been identified to be AIDS sufferers. He said the disease posed a threat to the labor force in the country, and appealed for concerted efforts to curb its spread.

Mr. Masinde further has told parties concerned to uphold industrial peace, enforce occupational health and safety at places of work, and utilize social security benefits. He said the National Social Security Fund, NSSF, with a membership of 2.6 million had realized Shs [shillings] 1.2 billion in contributions, and disbursed benefits estimated at Shs700 million to workers last year.

Mr. Masinde challenged workers throughout the country to rededicate their efforts to increasing productivity through hard work in order to develop the country.

Somalia

Gunmen Release Abducted Ethiopian Diplomat

AB3004164195 Paris AFP in English 1559 GMT 30 Apr 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, 30 Apr (AFP)—Somali gunmen Sunday [30 April] released an Ethiopian diplomat after holding him hostage for three weeks, a

spokesman for a faction leader said. The spokesman for faction leader Mohamed Farah Aidid said charge d'affaires Yamani Abdi was handed over unharmed to the Mogadishu strongman at 1400 GMT on Sunday.

Yamani was abducted from his Mogadishu office on 9 April by a group of armed accomplices of smugglers who had had goods confiscated by customs officers in neighboring Ethiopia. The kidnappers had demanded a 120,000-dollar ransom or the release of the goods.

A spokesman for the Suleiman sub-clan which was responsible for the kidnapping told AFP that Ethiopian authorities had agreed to release the seized goods and Somali smugglers detained in Ethiopia, but there was no independent confirmation of the allegation. The Ethiopian Foreign Ministry had demanded the unconditional release of the envoy, calling his abduction a "criminal act".

The Suleiman spokesman claimed that Yamani was freed after negotiations mediated by the Saudi ambassador to Kenya. Aidid had condemned the abduction and ordered one of his aides to secure his release.

Tanzania

Nyerere Warns Against Presidential Aspirants

EA0105170095 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1000 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The father of the nation, Mwalimu [title] Julius Nyerere, has said prospective presidential candidates should ask themselves what they can do for the nation, not what the nation can do for them. He said it is essential that voters know for sure that all parliamentary aspirants and presidential candidates are concerned about the problems facing the people.

Mwalimu Nyerere was expressing his views today during celebrations to mark May Day in Mbeya Region. Mwalimu Nyerere, whose speech was carried live by Radio Tanzania, said a presidential candidate who wishes to go State House for his own benefit is worthless. He said the presidency is not a comfortable place. It is problematic, and not a profitable business.

Mwalimu Nyerere, who was the president of Tanzania, and who lived in State House for 23 years, cautioned Tanzanians to be wary of presidential aspirants who wish to buy their way to State House, saying such people should be feared like leprosy. He asked Tanzanians to ask themselves where people who spend money to buy their way to State House got the money from, and if they borrowed it, how would they pay it back. He warned that such presidential aspirants have been bought and should, therefore, be avoided.

Shots Fired During Nelson Mandela's Stadium Speech

Mandela Airlifted From Stadium

MB0105152195 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1400 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela has been evacuated from the King Goodwill Zwelithini stadium at Umlazi near Durban after shots were fired during a Worker's Day rally there. Our reporter in the stadium said the president had just completed his speech when single shots were fired and short bursts of automatic gunfire were heard. Smoke bellowed into the stadium from a shack that was set on fire just outside. Mr. Mandela was airlifted from the stadium in an Air Force helicopter. At least one person has been arrested and an unknown number of people have been wounded. People are reported to be streaming from the stadium into the streets. We cross to our reporter at the stadium:

[Reporter Pete Scott] President Mandela was evacuated a few minutes ago after shots were fired outside the stadium. At the moment a medical rescue helicopter has just landed in the stadium to evacuate a critically injured man, but as far as we know two people have been injured. One person was arrested. As far as we could see a handgun was actually confiscated by the police. It is very difficult to say at this stage where the shooting was coming from, but everything erupted into chaos the moment the shots rang out. The president was whisked off the stage and was actually evacuated by helicopter. Everybody was filing out of the stadium and at the moment people are in the streets. They are going home, and the police are in the area trying to monitor the situation, which is very tense.

Property Damage, Injuries Reported

MB0105163995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1629 GMT 1 May 95

[Report by Micel Schnehage]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Durban May 1 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela was escorted in an armoured vehicle from the King Goodwill Zwelithini Stadium in Umlazi on Monday [1 May] after shots were fired in and around the stadium where he addressed mainly African National Congress supporters at a workers' day rally.

Six people were wounded and several shacks were burnt down during the rally outside Durban. One of the wounded was a youth who was shot in the forehead in the stadium as Mr Mandela thanked the crowd for attending and bade them a safe journey home. The youth was hit in the forehead and appeared to be dead. He was carried out by other supporters and taken to a peace monitor's armoured vehicle outside the stadium. President Nelson Mandela was escorted out of the stadium in a police Nyala armoured vehicle after the shooting erupted.

Houses adjacent to the stadium were set alight and intermittent gunfire was heard throughout the day despite a strong security presence in and around the arena. The violence erupted not long after Mr Mandela told the crowd he would take action to stop political violence in KwaZulu/Natal. Addressing the crowd in Zulu, Mr Mandela said Police Commissioner George Fivaz had been tasked to investigate what could be done to stop the violence in the province. [passage omitted]

Tensions at the Umlazi rally grew when residents of a nearby Zulu hostel gathered outside the complex and viewed the rally from afar. When gunshots were heard, some ANC youths prepared to go to the hostel but peace monitors and ANC marshals intervened and ordered them back to the stadium. It was not clear where the firing came from. A police helicopter monitored the situation and security force members were deployed in potential flashpoints, including the no 17 hostel's T-section.

Police Launch 'Immediate' Probe

MB0105182495 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1749 GMT 01 May 95

[Report by Tony Sterling and Micel Schnehage]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Durban May 1 SAPA—A top-level police investigation is to be launched into violence which forced the evacuation of President Nelson Mandela in a police armoured vehicle from the King Goodwill Zwelithini Stadium at Umlazi, north of Durban on Monday [1 May] afternoon.

National Police Commissioner George Fivaz is to head a police delegation to Durban on Tuesday to launch an immediate investigation into shootings at the stadium, which erupted on Monday as President Nelson Mandela was about to leave. President Mandela was evacuated from the stadium in an armoured police Nyala to a "position of safety", KwaZulu/Natal police spokesman Lt-Col Bala Naidoo said. Top-level government sources confirmed on Monday night that Commissioner Fivaz would be going to Durban on Tuesday to investigate the incident and would probably be accompanied by Lt-Gen Daan le Roux, head of National Safety Services of the police.

The sources said the fact that Mr Mandela, as president, had been placed in a position of possible danger was a matter of the utmost concern which required immediate attention at the highest level. Col Bala Naidoo said six people were injured in the shootings in the environs of the stadium, three inside and three outside, shortly after Mr Mandela had addressed a crowd of his supporters at a workers' day rally in the stadium. No shots were directed at the podium from which he spoke. Col Naidoo said that at about 1.50PM a group of about 500 supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party had arrived at the stadium.

The venue had been barricaded with razor wire and the group dispersed through firing teargas and rubber bullets. The violence in and around the stadium erupted at about 3.30PM just as Mr Mandela finished speaking, forcing the security services to hustle him out in a "cocoon of safety". Col Naidoo could not confirm earlier speculation that one person apparently shot in the head had died. He said there had been no arrests in connection with the incidents. According to Col Naidoo two houses and four shacks in the vicinity of the stadium were torched during the incidents. [passage omitted]

Police Issue Statement; Offer Reward

*MB0205064595 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2109
GMT 01 May 95*

[Report by Tony Stirling]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban May SAPA—A reward of up to R250,000 [rands] is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the perpetrators of the King Goodwill Zwelithini stadium violence which on Monday [1 May] led to the evacuation of President Nelson Mandela in an armoured police Nyala.

This was said in a statement on Monday night by KwaZulu/Natal police commissioner Lt-Gen Chris Serfontein.

Six people were injured in shootings in and around the stadium where President Mandela was speaking at a Workers Day rally. Six houses in the vicinity of the stadium were torched.

KwaZulu/Natal police spokesman Lt Col Bala Naidoo was on Monday night unable to confirm SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] television news reports that two people were killed in the shootings, three of which took place inside the stadium and three outside. Neither was he able to substantiate an SABC report that a man had been arrested in connection with the incidents.

The incidents occurred just after Mr Mandela finished speaking at 3.30 PM, Gen Serfontein's statement said. He said none of the shots was apparently directed at the podium where the president was seated. Gen Serfontein said the events were a cause for "grave concern".

"These attempts to disrupt the safety and security not only of the president but also of the citizens attending today's (Monday's) proceedings must be condemned in the strongest possible terms," said Gen Serfontein.

He said that shortly before Mr Mandela's arrival a group of about 500 people had tried to make their way into the stadium. The police had stopped them from doing so but were unsuccessful in attempts to disperse the group.

An earlier report said razor wire had been erected to prevent the passage of the group. As a result police had used teargas and rubber bullets. Failure to disperse the group would have led to probable bloodshed, he said.

The group involved in the confrontation was reported to have come from a nearby Zulu hostel.

After the shootings police had advised Mr Mandela it would be in the interests of his safety to leave in an armoured vehicle. He had said he would only leave once proceedings had ended.

After the finish of the rally, Mr Mandela had been transported out of the area in an Nyala in accordance with a standard police evacuation plan and procedures.

Gen Serfontein said he had appointed a team of top detectives to investigate the incidents. Top-level discussions on the matter were to be held on Tuesday "to prevent dangerous and volatile events of this nature from occurring".

Senior police sources said Monday night that National Police Commissioner George Fivaz, who would probably be accompanied by the head of the national safety security service, Lt-Gen Daan le Roux, would be arriving in Durban on Tuesday in connection with Monday's events.

In his statement Gen Serfontein also referred to intimidation and the turning back of buses on their way to the stadium at various places in the province. He said such acts would not be tolerated and the police would use maximum resources to prevent such disruptions.

Deputy President de Klerk Interviewed

MB2804092895 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1830 GMT 27 Apr 95

[Interview with Deputy President and National Party leader F.W. de Klerk in the Cape Town studio, by Max du Preez in the Johannesburg studio, on the "Agenda" program—live]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Du Preez] Good evening, welcome Mr. Deputy President.

[De Klerk] Good evening Mr. du Preez.

[Du Preez] Let's say you are the nation's doctor. How healthy would you say this one-year-old infant is tonight?

[De Klerk] I would say alive and well, and if properly cared for in the years ahead bound to grow into a robust youngster, a country which will make its mark in southern Africa, which will make its mark in the world, a country which will deliver a better life to all its people. We are pointed in the right direction and as long as we don't make serious mistakes we will succeed. I am confident about the future.

[Du Preez] How do you judge the legal guardian of this infant, President Mandela?

[De Klerk] I wouldn't like to give points. I've looked at the discussion with Minister Buthelezi but let me say that with regard to our cooperation we have established a sound working relationship on major issues such as

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reconciliation, such as seeking consensus in decision-making. I have high appreciation for the very constructive approach of the president.

[Du Preez] The old bad blood has really gone now?

[De Klerk] The bad blood has gone. The fact that we have had very frank discussions and made a new beginning has resulted in a better working relationship than the one that we've had before, so things are basically going well. Criticism I will reserve for private discussions.

[Du Preez] Well, I was going to ask you—certainly even our president has to have shortcomings.

[De Klerk] Yes, as I have and as everybody else has but we have that type of relationship that I feel free to have a showdown with him in a constructive sense when we differ and I'm not going to do so publicly.

[Du Preez] Mr. de Klerk, has all the so-called anti's in your caucus now accepted that the National Party is not only an opposition but that it's a primary participant and partner in the Government of National Unity?

[De Klerk] We've done so long ago. The question of anti's and pro's, and positives and negatives, in our caucus has really been a figment of the imagination to a great extent of commentators sitting outside. We have a very open debating situation in our caucus. We don't have a problem. We have focussed on analyzing this dual role that we have to play. Yes, we struggled in coming to grips with it but since our caucus in Stellenbosch earlier this year we are focussed on playing both roles, the one on the one side being cooperative, the other on the other side being competitive and fusing those two roles into a holistic whole and my whole caucus is united in balancing this dual duty which we have towards the country and all its people.

[Du Preez] There were great festivities all around the country today. I sometimes have the perception that there, among especially white people, there's at most a reluctant acceptance of the new South Africa. Do you think your white constituency and your party in general has really accepted the concept of liberation and is there greater enthusiasm for it nowadays?

[De Klerk] There's no question that within my support base, generally speaking, white South Africans feel as liberated as everybody else because we have carried the blame for the wrongs of the past. Sometimes wrongly. I am so glad that Bishop Tutu this morning said we must stop blaming apartheid for everything which is wrong in South Africa. National Party white supporters feel liberated together with the rest of all South Africans. Yes, I think that there is in the process of adaptation from time to time a situation where people feel threatened by the changes. Afrikaans-speaking people feel threatened by what might happen with regard to their language on television and there was a period, until the white paper

was published, where in education there was a perception that the right which is written into the constitution with regard to mother-tongue education might be threatened but that is why we are here. We are making a difference through our participation. We succeed in getting decisions accepted, compromise decisions which accommodates the fears which you are referring to when you say that there is at times a feeling of feeling uncomfortable.

[Du Preez] I asked President Mandela last night, on the same show, about his reaction to the feeling of unhappiness among, especially, the two Afrikaans-speaking communities. He said that my statement was not based on fact, and that there'd been a sea change, and that most white, colored, and Indian people are supporting him. Is that your perception?

[De Klerk] Well, I think that there is a wide acceptance. I also experience it from his support base; that as a person there is a very wide acceptance with regard to the role that I have played, and likewise, I think in my support base there is appreciation for the constructive role that President Mandela has played as an individual, and as a leader. But I don't think that that applies to everything that happens. I think that there are serious concerns within my support base about certain trends, and we, in our participation, are addressing those concerns, and ensuring that decisions will accommodate those concerns.

[Du Preez] You mentioned Afrikaans. Now, I have felt it personally, there's quite strong feelings about Afrikaans, the language. Again, I have to ask you—I remember asking you this last year—didn't you make a mistake in the negotiations, because the rights of the Afrikaans language are not clearly spelled out in the constitution. In fact, there's a little bit of this, and a little bit of that; don't take away, but they're all equal. Where do we go with Afrikaans, because this problem is going to drag on, it seems?

[De Klerk] Well, let me clearly state the National Party's position. I am not an Afrikaans leader representing just Afrikaans-speaking people. More than 50 percent of the people who voted for the National Party are people of color. I represent all language groups within the National Party, and we have support among all language groups, and in that sense of the word I'm quite happy with the constitution, because it recognizes the full diversity of our country. Each and every language must get its proper due, and the constitution, in this regard, says nothing must be taken away, which has already been achieved. In that sense...

[Du Preez, interrupting] You mentioned television now, and we can't have 11 television stations.

[De Klerk] ...but in that sense Afrikaans has a special position, which it has achieved in the past, and adherence to the constitution must mean that nothing must really, effectively be taken away. But then we must all

become involved in also further enhancing the opportunities and prospects of the other languages, and I'm as enthusiastic about furthering the cause of Venda and Tsonga and Tswana and whatever, as I am about maintaining the vested rights and interests of Afrikaans.

[Du Preez] Mr. de Klerk, I also asked President Mandela last night whether Deputy President Mbeki was becoming the de facto prime minister of South Africa. He more or less said no. What are your feelings about it?

[De Klerk] I would agree with that analysis. I think we're developing an interesting system where my colleague, Deputy President Mbeki, and I play a very specific role in the day-to-day management of the cabinet, in conjunction, of course, with the president, but the rotation between the two of us in chairing the cabinet, the division of functions with regard to chairing cabinet committees, and so on, put us together in a very close working relationship, and I don't think that there is the type of pecking order that the image which is being created suggests.

[Du Preez] We have 2 minutes left. Would you say South Africa now is a more tolerant and less racist society than last year this time?

[De Klerk] Yes. I think that there's a tremendous reservoir of goodwill at grassroots level, that the overwhelming majority of all South Africans want us to succeed, want reconciliation to work. I think that there is a risk—racism isn't dead, racism still lives in the hearts and minds of many people, and some people are still misusing it at times, but generally speaking, the goodwill, a wave of goodwill, is favoring South Africa and its prospects, and we must build on that foundation of the goodwill which exists.

[Du Preez] I want to ask you the same question that I asked Chief Buthelezi: The grandfather, the father, the husband, the private citizen De Klerk—what are his fears and dreams for the next year?

[De Klerk] I'm not afraid. I think we must accept certain challenges, we must ensure economic growth if we want to bring a better life to all our people. We must manage the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] well. We must not waste money, and we must make it work for the people in a meaningful way. We must get crime under control, and come forth with special plans to manage that properly. And we must write a proper, good, new constitution built on the 34 principles, to accommodate the particular, peculiar circumstances of South Africa, to create room and space for our cultural diversity, to ensure that federalism will work, and to ensure that we will have good government, and that we will be able to withstand all forms of corruption.

[Du Preez] Thank you, Sir. That was Deputy President de Klerk.

Right-Wing To Establish Public Computer Network

MB2804174995 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English 28 Apr-4 May 95 p 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The computer-age has finally dawned for rightwingers. Following a precedent set by the ANC, they have embarked on a plan to establish three computer databases, two of them on public computer networks.

An article in a recent issue of the Conservative Party's official newspaper, "DIE PATRIOT", shed further light on the developments.

With an "installation of BOERE-NET and BOERE-DATA (the names adopted by the network), no person will be able to complain that they were not informed of developments in the volk's [people] area of interests" the paper said.

The first database was established three weeks ago on Beltel, a Telkom [Telecommunications Corporation]-run network, and is currently undergoing further enhancements.

At present, users can download press releases and order various books, ranging from bestsellers such as "Fire and Treachery in Bophuthatswana", a book which deals with the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging's [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] (AWB) botched incursion into the former homeland, to "The Leuchter Report", a "forensic investigation" allegedly "proving" that the Auschwitz concentration camp never "had gas chambers at its disposal".

Within weeks, complete text version of journals and newsletters published by the Conservative Party (CP), Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) and Robert van Tonder's Boerestaat Party (BSP) are expected to be made available on Beltel.

Supplementing BOERE-DATA will be BOERE-NET, involving "the co-ordination of the users network to bring users into contact with one another" on both national and international levels.

Proposed developments could involve the launch of a locally based electronic Bulletin Board (BBS) and a further database on the Internet (a world-wide collection of interconnected computer sites which are open to public access).

For the ANC, the Internet has proved an invaluable tool in disseminating press releases, policy documents and daily news updates to subscribers.

Particularly effective was the manner in which the database was utilised in the run-up to last year's elections, resulting in the ANC becoming South Africa's first political party to campaign on the Internet.

Now it looks as if the volk will follow in the ANC's footsteps.

Mandela on Program To Ensure Safety of Visitors

*MB0105195395 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1945
GMT 1 May 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban May 1 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela in his opening address at the Indaba International Tourism Workshop in Durban on Monday [1 May] said the government had in place a major programme to ensure a safe climate for overseas visitors.

"I am confident that the close and active co-operation of communities with the police on which this programme is based, will assure its success," he said. Mr Mandela claimed South Africa was well on its way to improving on last year's unprecedented success. He predicted a possible increase of 25 per cent in the number of overseas arrivals for 1995, with the Rugby World Cup tournament being only one of many events in the tourist calendar. In light of this he challenged service enterprises to make 1995 a year of improving service. "We need also as a nation to make a concerted effort to continually increase the levels of hospitality and friendliness, and the general level of service. The international tourist market places a very high premium on these aspects," he warned.

Mr Mandela expressed the belief that with international support tourism could become one of the corner-stones of sustained economic growth in the country. "Tourism brings us a large revenue in foreign exchange earnings. But, more importantly still, it makes a significant impact on the Reconstruction and Development Programme," he said. Many of the almost half a million job opportunities provided by the industry were in rural areas where jobs were "desperately needed". Mr Mandela called on the industry to welcome all South Africans into its fold, not only as semi-skilled workers but also as entrepreneurs, colleagues and as tourists, saying local tourism was an even bigger creator of jobs than international tourism.

Russian Diamond Sales Destabilizing Market

*MB1904122595 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
19 Apr 95 p 16*

[Report by Derek Tommey]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Shares of the diamond giant De Beers have been under pressure for several months, seriously troubling its shareholders. The reason for this slide emerges from the statement to shareholders by De Beers chairman Julian Ogilvie Thompson published today.

According to figures given in his statement it seems that almost 40 percent of Russia's sales of rough diamonds last year bypassed the Central Selling Organisation (CSO)—although Russia is contractually bound to sell 95 percent of its diamonds directly to the CSO. The CSO is

the body set up by De Beers to stabilise the diamond market in the interest of producers, the trade and consumers.

Ogilvie Thompson says the diamond trade estimates that Russia sold rough diamonds worth \$700-million to \$800-million directly to the market in 1994. However, he points out that most of these diamonds came from stock and not current production which suggests that this level of sales cannot be maintained indefinitely.

But one Russian organisation, Almazy Rossii-Sakha, the Russian diamond company which operates the mines, adhered to the CSO agreement and its sales to the CSO were in excess of \$1.0-billion.

Ogilvie Thompson says the Russian sales unsettled the cutting centres and accentuated their lack of profitability. They also hit other diamond producers as they prevented the CSO from increasing quota limits from the current 85 percent of proven capacity to 100 percent and also prevented a price increase which would have benefited all producers.

Ogilvie Thompson said the CSO has repeatedly expressed its concern to the Russian authorities that Russian sales outside and additional to the agreed quota are detrimental to other producers and are destabilising the market.

Other interested parties have expressed their concern to the Russian authorities as well. He says it is widely recognised, and often publicly stated in Russia, that co-operation between the Beers and Russia is in the interests of both parties and indeed generally.

No doubt, that is why Russia has cooperated so successfully with De Beers for more than 30 years. While we are not satisfied with the existing arrangement, we will continue to negotiate, confident that cooperation will extend beyond the expiry of the current contract at the end of this year.

Apart from the Russian sales, the diamond market had a good year, he indicates. The CSO sold rough diamonds worth \$4.250 billion, which was only 2.7 percent less than in 1993. This is a tribute to the resourcefulness and the underlying strength of the market.

While smaller and cheaper categories of diamonds remained in surplus, demand for the better qualities was encouraging and confidence began to return to the market towards the end of the year.

Interest Rates Expected To Rise Soon

MB2904204395 Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English 29-30 Apr 95 p 17

[Report by Leigh Roberts]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Bond holders and other borrowers are due for a shock in the next month or two: the

Bank rate looks set to go up. The expected one percentage point hike in the rate will strain the already tight budgets of borrowers who have borne two interest rate rises in the past six months.

However, that is not the end of the climb for interest rates. Economists are predicting the prime overdraft rate will move from its current 17.50 percent to 20.5 percent in the medium term—reason enough for borrowers to get their debt levels down and for new property buyers to ensure they are not too heavily geared.

The immediate pressure on interest rates, economists say, is from the liquidity squeeze in the market and from rising inflation.

Standard Merchant & Corporate Bank treasury division director John Lloyd explains the liquidity squeeze: "There has been a deterioration in the country's balance of payments situation, largely due to the strong rise in imports, which has caused a net trade deficit. This outflow of funds has not been fully offset by capital inflows into the country from foreign investment. South Africa is now part of the global market and we must accept that if forex reserves go lower, there is pressure on short-term interest rates."

On the positive side, Lloyd notes that this situation could change fairly quickly as any increase in foreign investment could turn around the reserves position.

Some experts are predicting that the next rate hike will be delayed to later on in the year.

Ivor Leibowitz, economist at stockbroking firm Kaplan & Stewart, says: "Inflation is rising, which always puts pressure on interest rates, but it's too soon in the economic cycle to raise rates yet again. The Reserve Bank needs to foster economic growth, so it will probably be prepared to live with slightly higher inflation."

He says the Reserve Bank tightened monetary policy with the previous two Bank rate hikes and now needs to provide an economic environment conducive to growth.

Another factor in the equation is the strength of the rand. Higher interest rates will lend strength to the currency as more capital is attracted into the country. A stronger rand is not what the country wants at the moment as it is bad for exports, says Leibowitz.

"While you can argue both ways over the timing of the next interest rate hike, there are strong grounds for doing it later rather than sooner," he says.

Leibowitz is expecting a one percentage point rise in the rate, probably in the third quarter.

Nic Barnard, economist at stockbroking firm Ed Hern Rudolph Inc, says while it is possible that the Bank rate hike could come in the next month or so, he is hoping for "another couple of months' grace".

Barnard predicts a one percentage point rise in the third quarter on the back of the rising trade deficit and high demand for bank credit. He adds that a continuation of these trends will push the prime rate to 20.5 percent or more by early 1997, especially if domestic exchange controls are relaxed during this period.

Another factor that will influence a move in interest rates is international short-term rates.

While rates in the US are on a plateau, rates in Germany and Japan are following a lower trend. This will reduce the pressure on South Africa to raise rates from a capital flow perspective and allow a move in rates to be motivated by local economic factors.

Barolong Families Return to Land After 24 Years

MB2904174795 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2223
GMT 28 Apr 95

[By Jonathon Rees]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Potchefstroom April 28 SAPA—Twenty-four years after their forced removal to a tiny, barren patch of the former homeland Bophuthatswana, 20 Barolong da Madiboa families returned happily to their ancestral land on Friday [28 April]. Together with other displaced Barolong families, they are to settle on 3,489 hectares near Potchefstroom, bought by the Ministry of Land Affairs to begin the reversal of apartheid's forced removals. [passage omitted]

Friday's return was hastened by Minister of Land Affairs Derek Hanekom after several failed attempts. Potchefstroom Municipality on Friday afternoon formally handed the land over to Northwest's land department, which immediately gave it to the Barolong.

A letter on Wednesday from Mr Hanekom to Potchefstroom Town Clerk Johannes Botha confirmed the purchase of the land at R600 [rands] a hectare, with the proceeds to go to helping other landless people and upgrading Potchefstroom's Ikageng Township.

Mr Botha denied that Potchefstroom Town Council resisted the Barolong's return and said he had worked hard to meet Friday's target for their resettlement. [passage omitted]

Angola**Council Approves Draft Law on Industry Development**

MB2804170495 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 28 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Council of Ministers held a special session in Futungo de Belas this morning. Pedro Cabral reports:

The government is bent on developing the industrial sector this year. A number of documents were discussed and industrial sector officials were happy at the end of the meeting since their projects were approved, except the draft law creating the fund for assistance to industrial development, which will be discussed by the Economy and Finance Ministry. At the end of the meeting, Council of Ministers Deputy Secretary Sabino Ferraz read the press release:

The Council of Ministers met in Futungo de Belas today under the chairmanship of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and approved the Draft Law on Foreign Investment and the Industry Program for 1995-96. The regulation approved today pertains to the introduction into Angola of capital, goods, equipment, and, among others, technology or use of funds to be transferred abroad with the aim of realizing investment operations in accordance with the Law on Foreign Investment approved by the National Assembly in 1994. After the draft law's approval, conditions were created for a smooth realization of foreign investments.

The Council of Ministers also approved the Industry Program for 1995-96, which provides for revamping [words indistinct] economic development, restoration of production, domestic development, employment, and economic stability. The program contemplates the policy, measures, and necessary means for the rehabilitation and recovery of the industrial sector, and identifies the necessary means and mechanisms for its implementation. The program is obviously complemented by a set of documents also approved today that creates conditions for its evolution. Thus, a new organizational statute for the Industry Ministry was approved to render it an effective organism of industrial development capable of responding to challenges in industrial reconstruction. The Industry Law also establishes principles, norms, and basic instruments, as well as policies of industrial development, to reach the goals anticipated in the industrial program. The Industry Ministry will also have an institute of industrial development that will promote, oversee, and finance—with other financial

institutions—the creation of new industries based on private initiative, as well as develop systems to assist foreign and Angolan entrepreneurs.

The Council of Ministers also approved the Draft Law on Industrial Property Tax Table, which stipulates that the finance minister is authorized to alter tax rates whenever there are adjustments caused by inflation or currency devaluation.

Council Approves 1995-96 Agriculture Program

MB2904205095 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Council of Ministers today approved the agriculture program for 1995-96. The program's main aim is to increase agricultural production from its 1994 deficit of 1.3 million tonnes. Journalist To Braganca reports:

The government's first aim is to reduce by about 50 percent the food deficit. The program approved today provides for the exploitation of the potential of each region. To this effect, the country was divided into nine regions, where local initiatives will be stimulated through the participation of the private sector and of demobilized soldiers. The Council of Ministers also approved the Draft Law on the Concession of Titles and Use of Land. With the approval of this document, juridical conditions have been created for implementing the law on the use of land for agricultural purposes.

The Council of Ministers also approved Angola's joining the World Trade Organization, which will replace the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade [GATT]. The organization's main aim is to facilitate trade, promote dialogue, and fight protectionism. Weak economies will have the opportunity to benefit from easy access to markets of member states.

At the end of the meeting, the Council of Ministers was briefed on the development of the peace process.

Comoros**Prime Minister Resigns; New Government Formed**

LD2904203395 Paris Radio France International in French 1830 GMT 29 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Comoros Prime Minister Halifa Houmadi has resigned. President Mohamed Djohar has asked the former finance minister, Mohamed Caabi el Yachroutou, to form a new government. Except for two ministerial posts, the new government team is identical to the previous one.

Guinea-Bissau

Army Joins in Search for Missing Frenchmen
*AB3004155095 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215
GMT 30 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Guinea-Bissau is participating in the search for the four French nationals who went missing in Casamance on 6 April. This disclosure was made by official sources in Bissau, thus denying any connivance with the Casamance rebels. Some 300-500 Bissau soldiers have been screening entries along the common border with Senegal.

Liberia

Woewiyu Condemns Reported Attack on BBC Stringer

*AB0205101095 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900
GMT 2 May 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The recent brutal attack on the BBC Network stringer, Budu Kaiser, by a police major at the Labor Ministry in Monrovia, has been condemned by Labor Minister Thomas Woewiyu. The condemnation came in the wake of reports that the police officer acted upon the orders of Minister Woewiyu. The police officer, Major Blamo Sawenla, has been disrobed from the Liberian National Police and is awaiting trial.

Five Ex-ULIMO Commanders Rejoin Koromah Faction

*AB0105194095 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 1 May 95*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The five commanders who defected in protest at Alhaji Koromah's leadership of Liberia's ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] faction seem to have had a change of mind. The group, who fell out with Koromah earlier this year, included ULIMO's most feared battlefield commander who is known as Pepper and Salt, and for the last few months they have been in Guinea, but today one of the five, General Kumis Fofana, called us from Monrovia to say there has been a development. On the line, Robin White asked him what the position was.

[Begin recording] [Fofana] We have resolved our internal dispute traditionally after the interventions of our elders here in Monrovia, and we have decided to go back on the ground, and commit ourselves to the leadership of Alhaji Koromah.

[White] So, will you be going back to join him or will you stay in Monrovia?

[Fofana] I will be going back very soon.

[White] And how exactly have you resolved the dispute? What have you agreed to do, and what has he agreed to do?

[Fofana] Oh, we have agreed that Alhaji Koromah is the legitimate leader of ULIMO forces, and now we have agreed to go back and do whatever operation that is on the ground presently. [end recording]

Niger

Armed Movement Criticizes Tuareg, Government Accord

AB2704224995 Paris AFP in French 1645 GMT 27 Apr 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Abidjan, 27 Apr (AFP) [dateline as received]—An armed movement claiming to originate from eastern Niger's tribal groups, and advocating for regional autonomy, today criticized the peace agreement signed in Niamey on 24 April between the government and the country's Tuareg rebels. It viewed this procedure as the testimony of a "case by case policy" for solving problems.

In a communique issued to AFP in Lagos, Nigeria, the Democratic Front of Renewal [FDR] "condemned" this method which, it said, "is based on bad faith, and the political refusal to directly confront problems." It warned that if such a policy is pursued for a long time it will plunge "Niger into a spiral of armed conflicts." It recommended to Algeria, Burkina Faso, and France—the three countries whose mediatory role led to the signing of the Niamey accord—to have "a broader outlook on conflicts in Niger."

The FDR, which is made up of indigenes of the Toubou, Arab, and Kanouri tribal communities, launched an armed struggle a year ago to fight for an autonomous status for the Kawar and Manga regions in eastern Niger.

The 24 April peace agreement confers on the Tuareg community the powers to manage the affairs of the country's northern region where it constitutes the majority. It stipulates that a special economic aid package will be allotted to the region for the integration of 1,000 rebel fighters into the Army or the civil service. These concessions which put an end to over three years of conflict, had for a long time been rejected by the Niamey Government which feared that they might cause further reactions and calls for autonomy from the country's remaining ethnic and geographical entities.

Nigeria

Abacha: Government To Probe Dissolved Labor Unions

*AB0105180595 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700
GMT 1 May 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Government is to institute investigations into the alleged mismanagement of funds of the three dissolved labor unions, which are the NLC [Nigerian Labor Congress], NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers], and PENGASSAN [Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria]. The head of

state, General Sani Abacha, made this known today, in Abuja, in a message to the nation on the occasion of the May Day celebration.

Gen. Abacha said investigations will be conducted in consonance with the preliminary report received from the sole administrator of the union, which suggested lack of accountability in the management of funds and contributions from government. He expressed regret that even the most vocal leaders in the former unions were reckless and irresponsible in the management of the funds entrusted in their account. The head of state explained that government was considering the restructuring of the industrial unions within the context of the principles of voluntary membership and tripartism.

Government Pledges To Reactivate Refineries

AB2904201195 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 28 Apr 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister of state for petroleum, Dr. Kabiru Chafe, has said the reactivation of Nigerian refineries to work at full capacity remains a top priority of the Petroleum Ministry. Dr. Chafe stated this in Abuja while speaking with correspondent, Garba Abubakar:

[Begin recording] [Chafe] (?It is) well known that our refineries are working below capacity and that the object now is to make these refineries to work to full capacity on a minimum basis. One, unless you have your refineries working to full capacity, you will not eliminate all the multidimensional problems associated with availability of products and transportation of the products across the country; and it is also linked with an important project which is about to [word indistinct] the country, that is the southwest pipeline, which is connecting all the refineries and all the depots in the country.

[Abubakar] Dr. Chafe also said government is making concerted efforts toward the indigenization of petroleum exploration in the country.

[Chafe] The industry in the oil sector has been obviously (?subsidized) to attract indigenous participation in exploration and all efforts are being geared toward giving them incentives and encouraging them in this direction for a number of obvious reasons. Unless you have substantial indigenous participation in the oil sector, you will not totally control the sector.

[Abubakar] The minister of state for petroleum resources also condemned recent activities of Trans-Africa, particularly its reference to Nigeria as the source of narcotic drugs consumed in the United States.

[Chafe] They have been predicting that Nigeria is going to collapse by June; Nigeria is going to collapse by April. To their frustration, Nigeria is waging stronger, and we are

assuring Trans-Africa and black friends that Nigerians are ready to fashion their democracy in their own way. Democracy has no universal structure. [end recording]

Sierra Leone

Army Reports Clashes With Rebels Near Freetown

AB0105180095 Paris AFP in English 1729 GMT 1 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Freetown, 1 May (AFP)—Violent clashes between the Sierra Leone Army and rebels broke out Monday [1 May] in the strategic district of Waterloo, only 25 kilometres from the capital Freetown, military sources said. The Army, backed by the Guinean air force, had been bombarding rebel positions in the region since Wednesday and "is in control of the situation," the sources said. Freetown would be placed in a state of siege if the rebel United Revolutionary Front (RUF) took Waterloo. The rebels have never been so close to the capital since the outbreak of civil war in 1991.

Heavy Fighting Reported in Kono District

AB0105170595 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 1 May 95

[From the "Focus of Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has clearly been some heavy fighting in Kono District in Sierra Leone in recent days between the Army and the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels. Both air and ground forces have been involved, and today the military made a statement contradicting rebel claims that they had overrun large parts of Kono. In fact, the Army says RUF have been forced out. Our Freetown correspondent, Victor Silva, telexed this report:

According to the military, the rebels have been driven out of Yengema, Motema, and Podu after a series of fierce battles over the last three days. Reports from Kono area say that in a number of zones, helicopter gunships went on missions to dislodge the rebels from well concealed and fortified positions. Bitter fighting yesterday also saw Alpha jets in action, neutralizing and destroying a couple of antiaircraft guns that were suspected to have been deployed by the rebels.

Casualty figures are still hard to come by but one eyewitness told me today that along the Bumpe-Motema Highway, he saw the bodies of at least 20 men, some in the usual attire worn by rebels while others appeared to be in civilian clothes. One company running shuttle helicopter services between Kono and Freetown had to suspend its operations for the past week but one of its officials told me today that with the security situation apparently improving they would start operations again later this week.

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